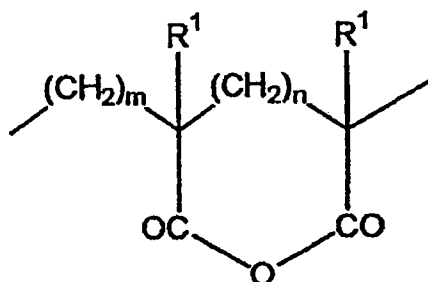


Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend Claim 3. Add Claims 19 and 20. The changes in Claim 1 are shown with ~~strike through~~ for deleted matter and underlining for added matter. A complete listing of the claims is set out below with proper claim identifiers.

1. (Previously Presented) A thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising an acrylic block copolymer (A) which comprises a methacrylic polymer block (a) and an acrylic polymer block (b), wherein at least one of polymer blocks among the methacrylic polymer block (a) and the acrylic polymer block (b) has an acid anhydride group and/or a carboxyl group, and an acrylic polymer (B) having 1.1 or more of epoxy groups in one molecule, wherein the acid anhydride group and/or the carboxyl group is reacted with the epoxy group at molding, and the acrylic block copolymer (A) is converted to crosslinked.

2. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the acid anhydride group and/or the carboxyl group exist in the main chain of the acrylic block copolymer (A) and the acid anhydride group is represented by the general formula (1):



(wherein R^1 is hydrogen or a methyl group and may be the same or ~~different~~ different, n is an integer of 0 to 3 and m is an integer of 0 or 1).

3. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claims 1 or 2,

wherein the acrylic block copolymer (A) comprises 10 to 60% by weight of the methacrylic polymer block (a) in which a methacrylic polymer is the main component

and 90 to 40% by weight of the acrylic polymer block (b) in which an acrylic polymer is the main component.

4. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the acrylic polymer block (b) comprises 50 to 100% by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of n-butyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate and 2-methoxyethyl acrylate and 50 to 0% by weight of other acrylate ester and/or other vinyl monomer copolymerizable with these monomers.

5. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the number average molecular weight measured by gel permeation chromatography of the acrylic block copolymer (A) is 30,000 to 200,000.

6. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein a ratio (M_w/M_n) of the weight average molecular weight (M_w) to the number average molecular weight (M_n) measured by gel permeation chromatography of the acrylic block copolymer (A) is 1.8 or less.

7. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the acrylic block copolymer (A) is a block copolymer produced by atom transfer radical polymerization.

8. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the glass transition temperature of the methacrylic polymer block (a) is 25 to 130°C.

9. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the weight average molecular weight of the acrylic polymer (B) is 30,000 or less.

10. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein a glass transition temperature of the acrylic polymer (B) is at most 100°C.

11. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the acrylic polymer (B) comprises 50 to 100% by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of n-butyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate and 2-methoxyethyl

acrylate and 50 to 0% by weight of other acrylate ester and/or other vinyl monomer copolymerizable with these monomers.

12. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the weight average molecular weight of the acrylic polymer (B) is 500 to 10,000.

13. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein viscosity of the acrylic polymer (B) is 35,000 mPas or less.

14. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein 5 to 200 parts by weight of a filler is further added based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic block copolymer.

15. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein 0.1 to 20 parts by weight of a lubricant is further added based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic block copolymer.

16. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition for powder slush molding, comprising the composition of Claim 1.

17. (Previously Presented) A molded article, which is obtained by powder slush molding the composition of Claim 1.

18. (Previously Presented) A superficial skin for an automobile interior, which is obtained by powder slush molding the composition of Claim 1.

19. (New) A method of molding a thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising:

providing an acrylic block copolymer (A) which contains a methacrylic polymer block (a) and an acrylic polymer block (b), wherein at least one of said polymer blocks has an acid anhydride group and/or a carboxyl group;

providing an acrylic polymer (B) having 1.1 or more of epoxy groups in one molecule; and

molding said acrylic block copolymer (A) and said acrylic polymer (B) together whereby said acid anhydride group and/or said carboxyl group is reacted with said epoxy group during molding and the methacrylic polymer block (a) acrylic polymer blocker (b) of the acrylic block copolymer (A) are converted to crosslinked.

20. (New) The method of Claim 19 further characterized by and including the step of:

molding said thermoplastic elastomer composition by powder slush molding.